

Who Killed Hussain (radiyallaahu anhu)?

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Introduction

The Shee'ah commemorate the Day of 'Aashooraa with great passion and fanfare. What is strange is that although they spend so much energy in their parades and self-beatings, very few Shee'ah actually investigate the origin of the rituals of 'Aashooraa'. A simple investigation in the origins of this ritual will shock the Shee'ah.

The Shee'ah Rituals of 'Aashooraa'

Firstly, the Shee'ah do not realize that it was the Shee'ah themselves who were responsible for the death of Hussain (radiyallaahu anhu). Furthermore, the Shee'ah of today don't realize that the rituals that they do during 'Aashooraa' were invented by the very people who were responsible for the murder of Hussain. If the Shee'ah actually stopped to reflect on the origins of this Shee'ah "holiday", they would realize the basis of their entire religion is based on opposing the very group (i.e. Ahlul-Bayt) that they claim to follow.

Hasan (radiyallaahu anhu) makes peace with Muawiyyah (radiyallaahu anhu)

During his Caliphate, Alee (radiyallaahu anhu) shifted the Caliphate from Medinah to Kufa in Iraaq. The Kuffans were staunch followers of Alee (Shee'at Alee). The Jew, Abdullah Ibn Saba found the Kuffans to be very receptive to his claims that Alee was divinely appointed by Allaah, and his followers became known as the Saba'ites. After the death of Alee, many of the Kuffan Shee'ah joined the forces of Hasan ibn Alee (radiyallaahu anhu). However, Hasan did not trust these Shee'ah. The prominent Shee'ah author Abu Mansur at-Tabarsi has preserved the following remark of Hasan: **"By Allaah, I think Muawiyyah would be better for me than these people who claim that they are my Shee'ah."** [al-Ihtijaaj vol. 2 p. 290-291]

Distrusting his Shee'ah, Hasan made peace with Muawiyyah (radiyallaahu anhu) and gave him the Caliphate. The Shee'ah protested at this, and Hasan's (radiyallaahu anhu) reply is preserved in the most important of the Shee'ah books: **"By Allah, I handed over power to him for no reason other than the fact that I could not find any supporters. Had I found supporters I would have fought him day and night until Allaah decides between us. But I know the people of Kufa. I have experience of them. The bad ones of them are no good to me. They have no loyalty, nor any integrity in word or deed. They are in disagreement. They claim that their hearts are with us, but their swords are drawn against us."** [Al-Kafi, vol. 8 p. 288]

The Shee'ahs invite Hussain (radiyallaahu anhu) to Kufa

When Muawiyyah (radiyallaahu anhu) died, the Caliphate was passed on to his son Yazid, angering the Shee'ahs of Kufa. So it was that in Ramadan 60 A.H. that the Kuffans sent over 12,000 letters from Kufa to Mecca where Hussain (radiyallaahu anhu) was staying. The Kuffans assured Hussain of their loyalty and allegiance to him and that they had not accepted Yezid as leader. On certain days, there would be as many as 600 letters accompanied by messengers describing the overwhelming support for Hussain (radiyallaahu anhu) in Kufa.

Hussain (radiyallaahu anhu) decided to send his cousin Muslim Ibn Aqil to investigate the situation in Kufa. Ibn Aqil arrived in the month of Dhul Qa'dah. The Kuffans met him and pledged the support of 12,000 Shee'at Alee of Kufa. They promised to fight with and to protect Hussain with their lives and their wealth. When the number who pledged support rose to 18,000 Kufans, Ibn Aqil felt confident enough to dispatch a messenger to Hussain informing him of the oath of allegiance of the Kuffans, and urged him to proceed from Mecca to Kufa. Despite the pleading of many Sahaabah, who warned him against the treachery of the Kuffans, Hussain (radiyallaahu anhu) and his relatives began the fateful journey to Iraq.

Rumours of what was happening in Kufa soon reached Caliph Yazid in Damascus. He dispatched Ubaydullah ibn Ziyad with 17 men to find Muslim Ibn Aqil and kill him. When Ubaydullah arrived in Kufa, Muslim Ibn Aqil called the Kuffans to defend him. It was at this moment of need that the Shee'ah of Kufa deserted Ibn Aqil, fearful of Ubaydullah's threats. Muslim Ibn Aqil hid from Ubaydullah in the house of an old woman. The old woman's son, a part of the Shee'at Alee, notified Ubaydullah of Ibn Aqil's location, hopeful that this act would prevent Yazid from punishing Kufa. Based on this act of treachery, the Shee'ah left Muslim Ibn Aqil to be captured by Ubaydullah.

Hussain's (radiyallaahu anhu) representatives are betrayed.

Later that day – the Day of Arafah, Muslim ibn Aqil was taken up to the highest ramparts of the fort. His last words before being executed were: **"O Allaah, You be the Judge between us and our people; they deceived us and deserted us."** The Shee'ah of Kufa witnessed his execution, and not a single one of them went to the aid of Hussain's (radiyallaahu anhu) cousin. It is important to remember that only 17 men were with Ubaydullah, whereas there were 18,000 Shee'ah of Kufa who had pledged allegiance to Hussain. How could it be that 18,000 men could not stop 17 men from slaughtering the very man they had just pledged support to?

Meanwhile, Hussain (radiyallaahu anhu) had dispatched a messenger - Qais ibn Mushir, to inform the Kuffans of Hussain's arrival. He was captured by Ubaydullah, who ordered him to mount the walls of the fort and publically curse Hussain and his father. Instead, Qais ibn Mushir praised Alee and Hussain telling the Shee'ah of Kufa that Hussain was on his way, and he exhorted them to defend him. Upon that, Qais ibn Mushir was executed. Yet another representative of Hussain (radiyallaahu anhu) had been killed by 17 men while the 18,000 Shee'ah of Kufa looked on.

Treachery in Iraq

On reaching Iraq, Hussain (radiyallaahu anhu) found out to his surprise that the Shee'ah of Kufa had joined the army that was sent out to stop him. He therefore changed direction from Kufa to Karbala. However the army from Kufa intercepted him at Karbala. The same Kufan Shee'ahs who had pledged allegiance to him, were now preparing to fight him. He addressed the Kufan army saying: **"I did not come to Kufa without being asked to come. I received numerous letters from you stating you had no Imaam and you asked me to come. So it was obligatory upon you to stick to your promise and to obey me, but you broke your promise and your pledge of allegiance to me. This is not something strange or new to us, as you people proved disloyal and treacherous to my father, my brother (Hasan) and my cousin Muslim bin**

Aqil. If you did not wish for me to come, then I will return back to where I came from.” [Taareekh al-Umam Wal-Malook (2/228-229)].

When the Kufans heard this, they denied that they had written to him. Hussain (radiyallaahu anhu) called out some of their names, took out their letters, and read it to them, adding: **“now when I have arrived here, you are adamant on killing me”**. (Najeebabadi: The History of Islam, volume two, page 77).

The killers of Hussain were the Shee’ah

The famous Shee’ah scholar, Mullah Baaqir Majlasee narrates that Hussain (radiyallaahu anhu) said: **May Allaah’s curse be upon you and your intentions, you tyrannical, disloyal and treacherous Shee’ah, you have carved my chest with a dagger.”** (Jalaa al-A’ayoon, page 468)

The man who killed Hussain (radiyallaahu anhu) (i.e. gave the death-blow) was a Shee’ah called Shimr bin Thil-Jawshan, as recorded in Sunni & Shia books. (Al-Qummi, “Safinatun-Najaat”, vol.4, p. 492) Mullah Baaqir Majlasee said: “In the end it was these disloyal Shee’ah who martyred Hussain” (Jalaa al-A’ayoon, page 468)

In the Shee’ah book, Khulaasatul Masaa’ib’ Shee’ee, it says: “The killers of Hussain (radiyallaahu anhu) were all Koofee and no one from amongst them was a Shaamee (Syrian) or a Hijaazee (from Makkah or Madeenah)” (page 201).

Overcome with guilt (?)

Four years after murdering Hussain (radiyallaahu anhu), the Shee’ah of Kufa attempted to make amends. They called themselves the At-Tawwabun (the Penitents), went to Karbala, and began loud mourning, lamenting, and self-flagellation. They did this in order to punish themselves for murdering their Imaam. This is the origin of the Shee’ah ritual of mourning and self-beating on the tenth of Muharram. Sadly, they never investigate where this barbaric custom started from or why it started in the first place. Little do they know that it is a testament to this day of how they killed their own Imaam. To this day, the Shee’ah still commemorate ‘Aashooraa’ by beating themselves. This ritual was passed down the generations by the Tawwabun showing us that the Shee’ah of today originates from the same Shee’ah of Kufa who killed Hussain (radiyallaahu anhu).